JEFFREY S. CHIESA
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law 5th Floor
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the Board of Nursing

FILED

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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

By: DAG Susan Carboni Tel. (973) 648-2894

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION: OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF:

Administrative Action

KARIN BRENNER, R.N. LICENSE # NO 12088000

ORDER OF SUSPENSION OF LICENSE

TO PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED NURSE (R.N.) IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (" Board") upon the receipt of information indicating the following;

- 1. Respondent, Karin Brenner, is the holder of License No. NO 12088000 and is a registered nurse in the State of New Jersey.
 - 2. Respondent entered into a private letter agreement with

the Board, which she signed on or about October 29, 2010.

(Exhibit A) The agreement required respondent to enroll in the Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP), undergo evaluation and monitoring, agree to follow recommendations by RAMP for further treatment, and to refrain from the use of any and all potentially addictive substances. (Exhibit A, ¶¶2, 6, and 10.) The agreement was to have the force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4. In the event that the Board received reliable information that respondent had acted in violation of the RAMP contract and/or the agreement, the agreement was no longer to remain confidential.

- 3. In a communication dated December 14, 2012, RAMP's Interim Director advised the Board that respondent was noncompliant RAMP monitoring requirements. (Exhibit B)
- 4. On or about January 23, 2013, a letter issued by overnight and regular mail to respondent at her address of record, advising respondent that the Board had received credible information indicating that she was not in compliance with the private letter agreement, and advising her to forward within five days any proof that she was currently in compliance with RAMP. The overnight mailing was delivered on January 24, 2013. The regular mailing was not returned. No response has been received to date. (Exhibit C)
 - 5. The private letter agreement signed by respondent

provided for automatic suspension of respondent's nursing license upon receipt of reliable information indicating that respondent has violated any term of the private letter agreement. (Exhibit A, $\P13$)

6. A certification from RAMP's Interim Director dated February 7, 2013 indicates that on October 15, 2012, respondent advised RAMP that she no longer wished to continue her career as a nurse, and since that date respondent has ceased participation in the program. (Exhibit D) RAMP participation is required by the private letter agreement.

Accordingly;

IT IS on this 14th day of February, 2013 HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey shall be and hereby is suspended for her violation of the private letter agreement, which is deemed a violation of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).
- 2. Respondent may, under the terms of the private letter agreement, upon notice, request a hearing on the sole issue of whether respondent has failed to comply with the terms of the private letter agreement.
- 3. In the event that respondent seeks reinstatement of her .

 New Jersey nursing license at any future time, the Board shall

not entertain any application for reinstatement without respondent's demonstrating that she is in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the private letter agreement and with any agreement with RAMP.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN, C

Board President

EXHIBIT

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KIM GUADAGNO Lt. Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs New Jersey Board of Nursing 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark NJ 07102 www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/medical/nursing.htm



PAULA T. DOW Attorney General

THOMAS R. CALCAGNI Acting Director

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 45010 Newark, NJ 07101 (973) 504-6430

October 18, 2010

Certified and Regular Mail Karin M.Brenner 15 Cedarbrook Lane Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087

Re: Private letter agreement

Dear Ms. Brenner:

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

The New Jersey Board of Nursing has reviewed information regarding your nursing practice which reveals that you may have problems related to substance abuse aboard have affected and/or might subsequently affect your nursing activities. The Board has therefore authorized me to propose to resolve this matter by private letter agreement. However, if this agreement is not promptly returned, signed, this offer may be withdrawn. Moreover this offer of private resolution is premised on the information of which the Board is currently aware, i.e., that the Board was advised by Jersey Shore University Medical Center that you were terminated for diversion of CDS, specifically the diversion. In the event that information emerges indicating that the dimensions of the problem are greater than indicated above, or that your conduct results in a criminal disciplinary action. Except as indicated above, or if the Board receives reliable maintain the confidentiality of this letter agreement, the Board will shall maintain the confidentiality of this letter agreement.

In order to determine how to finally resolve this matter, the Board requests that you sign this document in order to indicate that you:

1. Agree to undergo a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation to be conducted by a qualified mental health evaluator as recommended by the Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP) within 30 days hereof. Agree that the evaluator shall prepare a report which shall include an evaluation of your mental health condition and substance use history (if any), whether you are able to safely and competently practice nursing, and said report shall include recommendations for further treatment and monitoring, if applicable, including the need for continued

- 11. Agree that your signature on this agreement shall specifically constitute a waiver of confidentiality of documents and information forwarded by the Board to RAMP and by RAMP to the Board, and received pursuant to this agreement, so as to permit their use in any proceeding regarding your license in the event you violate any provision of this agreement.
- 12. Agree that you shall remain in RAMP until successful completion of or release from the program. Agree that unless you have successfully completed RAMP, and received written notification from the Board that you are relieved of the requirements of this letter agreement, you may not modify the conditions of this agreement without submitting a written petition to the Board providing a detailed explanation of the basis for your modification request, and then entering into a new, modified agreement with the Board which may not necessarily be confidential.
- 13. Agree that any deviation from the terms of this private letter agreement without the prior written consent of the Board shall constitute a failure to comply with the terms of this agreement. Upon receipt of any reliable information indicating that you have violated any term of this agreement, your nursing license may be automatically suspended by the Board. You may, upon five days notice, request a hearing to contest the entry of such an order. At any such hearing the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding your violation of the agreement was materially false. In addition, the Board reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

Upon your forwarding this signed agreement, of which you should retain a copy, to my attention, you should immediately contact Arlene Davis, at (609)883-5335, Extension 35, leaving a message with a telephone number where you may be contacted. In the event that there is no response within 48 hours, you may contact Joanne Cole, RAMP's Director, at (609)883-5335, Extension 34, and leave a message with a contact number. Be prepared to forward a copy of this letter to RAMP. You will and to obtain the written evaluation. This agreement and any resulting evaluation shall force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4.

Very truly yours,

Ву:

George J. Hebert, MA, R.N. Executive Director

I have read the above agreement and agree to be bound by its terms.

Karin Brenner Date

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609-883-5335 | Fax 609-883-1544 Peer Assistance Hotline: 800-662-0108

www.NJSNA.org

Patricia A. Barnett, RN, JD Chief Executive Officer Jamie Smith, RN Interim RAMP Director

December 14, 2012

George Hebert, RN, MA Executive Director New Jersey Board of Nursing 124 Halsey Street 6th floor Newark, NJ 07102

RE: Karin Brenner RN # 26NO12088000

Dear Mr. Hebert.

This is letter is to notify you that Karin Brenner, RAMP participant # 1143 has been noncompliant with her RAMP monitoring requirements. Ms. Brenner signed her private letter agreement on October 29, 201 and a RAMP Monitoring Agreement was signed on December 21, 2010. She began drug screening on 1/10/11.

On October 15, 2012, Ms. Brenner informed RAMP that she no longer wishes to continue her career as a nurse and ceased participating in program. Since then Ms. Brenner has missed all check ins, testing, group attendance and submission of reports.

Karin Brenner has failed to respond to RAMP's efforts to contact her and become compliant. At this time RAMP cannot assure the BON or the public that she is safe to practice. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or need clarification.

Sincerely,

Jamie Smith MSN, RN

Interim RAMP Director

Cc: Deborah Zuccarelli RN, NJ BON Nicole Peteet-Davis C



CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

State of New Jersey

Office of the Attorney General Department of Law and Public Safety Division of Law PO Box 45029 Newark, NJ 07101

JEFFREY S. CHIESA
Attorney General

CHRISTOPHER S. PORRINO
Director

January 23, 2013

By regular and overnight mail Ms. Karin Brenner
15 Cedarbrook Lane
Little Egg Harbor, NJ 008087

Re: Noncompliance with private letter agreement

Dear Ms. Brenner:

The New Jersey State Board of Nursing is in receipt of credible information advising that you are not in compliance with the private letter agreement that you signed on or about October 29, 2010.

The Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP) has notified the Board that you have indicated to RAMP that you advised RAMP on October 15, 2012 that you no longer wish to continue your career as a nurse, and that since that date you have missed all call-ins, testing, and peer group meeting attendance, and have not submitted any required reports.

The private letter agreement that you signed provides for automatic suspension of your nursing license for noncompliance. If the information the Board has received is not accurate, you are advised to forward proofs that you are in compliance with the private letter agreement to my attention within five (5) business days. You may send it to:



D.A.G. Susan Carboni Division of Law P.O. Box 45029 124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor Newark, NJ 07101

You may also fax me at (973)648-3879. You should telephone to verify receipt. Your failure to demonstrate that you are in compliance with the private letter agreement may result in the suspension of your nursing license.

Thank you for your attention.

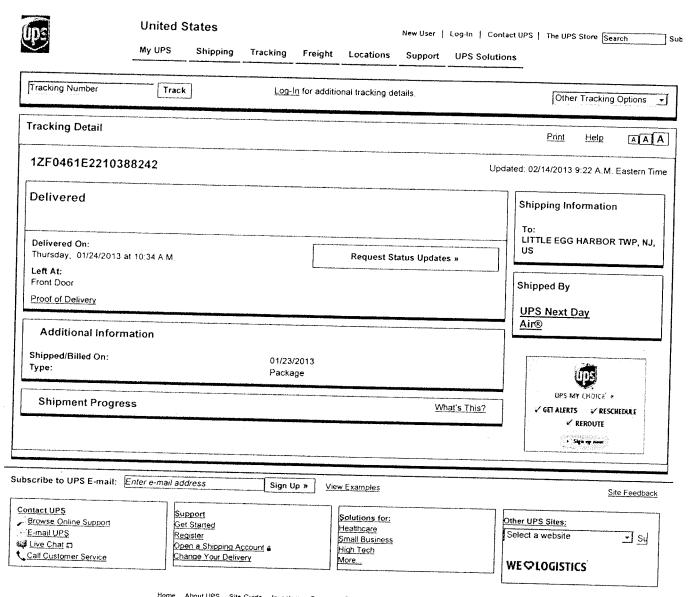
Sincerely yours,

JEFFREY S. CHIESA ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

Susan Carboni

Deputy Attorney General

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EXHIBIT

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DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

CERTIFICATION OF JAMIE SMITH

- I, Jamie Smith, of full age, certify:
- 1. I am a registered nurse in the State of New Jersey, and employed as the Interim Director and custodian of the records of the Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP), with offices at the New Jersey State Nursing Association, 1479 Pennington Road, Trenton, New Jersey 08618. I have been employed in that capacity since January 1, 2011.
- 2. I have consulted the records used by RAMP in the ordinary course of business and have ascertained that Karin Brenner, R.N., enrolled in RAMP in 2010. On October 15, 2012, Ms. Brenner advised RAMP that she no longer wished to continue her career as a nurse. Since that date she has ceased participating in the program. She no longer calls in daily as required, no longer reports for substance abuse screenings, no longer attends peer group meetings and no longer submits required monthly reports.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Jamie Smith, R.N. Interim Director

Recovery and Monitoring Program

Dated: 2/7/13